8th September 1928]

Causes for the failure of the Chenat Nair forest exploitation scheme.

*292 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have investigated the question how far the failure of the forest exploitation schemes at Chenat Nair and Olavakkot is due to the following reasons, viz.

(1) that very few of the experts in the Forest department know anything of the so-called inferior or miscellaneous species popularly called jungle woods and have properly utilized them for their economical value;

(2) that the type of the machinery employed was not of the right sort;

(3) that the costly staff employed are ignorant of the elementary principles of exploitation; and

(b) what steps have been taken or are being taken to remedy these evils?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no reason to believe that the financial loss in the Chenat Nair operations including the Olavakot Saw Mill can be attributed to any of the causes alleged in the question.

Local Boards

Nomination of defeated candidates to Mayavaram Taluk Board.

*293 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any defeated candidates were nominated to the Taluk Board of Mayavaram, and if so, who they are;

(b) the constitution of the Taluk Board together with its elective and nominated strengths; and

(c) the number of elected and nominated votes which were cast in favour of the President at the time of his last election as President of the Board?

A.—(a) The Government have no authoritative information, but will inquire of the President, District Board, Tanjore. Nomination to Taluk Boards are made by the Presidents of District Boards and not by Government

(b) The sanctioned strength of the taluk board is twenty members of whom fifteen are elected

(c) The election of president being by ballot, the information is not obtainable.

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I know, Sir, whether the defeated president of the taluk board of Mayavaram was reappointed by the President, District Board?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" The hon. Member's assumption is correct."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I know whether he proposes to invite the attention of the appointing authority to the irregularity of such appointments."

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" The answer to clause (c) will supply the kind of information wanted by my hon. Friend."